

JUNE 2017

AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

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Travelers have been traversing Lancaster County along Route 30 for well over two centuries. And for over 70 years, a very special building has signaled their arrival in Amish Country. It has a legitimate claim on being the area's oldest visitor landmark. Most importantly, it's the "place that made shoo-fly pie famous." That iconic structure is the **Dutch Haven** windmill.

With a history dating back to the beginnings of tourism here, the building is rich in memories. From the time it started as a luncheonette in 1920 right up to the present, it has remained most famous for shoo-fly pie, served warm with whipped cream. The Dutch Haven shoo-fly pie has even been mentioned in a TIME magazine article.

Today, as soon as you walk in, you'll be offered a free sample of that same delicious, gooey pie. Some 40,000 pies are baked annually, using

the original (secret) recipe. Visitors are still encouraged to "Take one for yourself or send one to someone nice." You can buy and ship pies home at the store or at their "online shop," where you'll find other local crafts as well.

Yes, Dutch Haven is much more than pies, with over 10,000 unique gift items, foods, and

collectibles. Some of the most popular are jams, jellies, and canned goods, noodles, Amish pine furniture and cedar chests, hex signs, quilted spice mats, Amish straw hats, jewelry and gemstones, Dutch Delft tiles, Amish dolls, onyx and soapstone animals, trivets, metal stars, Tiffany lamps, Amish romance novels, framed prints, plenty of T-shirts and postcards, and a tremendous selection of Amish-made outdoor furniture. It's an eclectic mix, to say the least.

As you explore, you'll discover lots of other "surprises" around every corner. Expect the unexpected! And don't forget the Amish-style root beer in the barrel.

Remember, Dutch Haven is open every day of the week, right into the evening. Look forward to your free sample when you walk in under the welcoming arms of the windmill... for this truly is the place that made shoo-fly pie famous. 



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The Sunday Ride Adults \$16 Children \$8

This 30 to 35 minute tour is the only ride available on Sundays. The Sunday Ride is a lovely tour through an all Amish area. There are no stops on this ride due to the Amish's observance of the Sabbath.

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WILKUM TO OUR WORLD

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Special to AMISH COUNTRY NEWS



Ride Like the Amish Do!

Aaron and Jessica will be happy to take you. Jessica? Well, she's the little girl who started it all. Her dad agreed to let her try her hand at giving buggy rides. She liked driving horses, and thought it would be fun to show the beautiful scenery and Amish farms to visitors. Aaron? You're probably thinking that must be Jessica's father. Nope. You just can't have a buggy ride without a horse. That's right, Aaron was Jessica's horse. And that's how Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides was born.

When they were little girls, Jessica and her sisters (pictured on cover) were all taught how to drive buggies from a young age, and learned how to take care of horses from their dad.

Ride Through the Covered Bridge

All of the buggy rides pass through a covered bridge. As Jessica always says, "We know

you came here more than anything to see and understand how and why we live the way we do. Take a ride with us. Let us tell you all about it, too. After all, we live here."

"You don't have to pass one piece of ground that isn't farmed with a horse when you take a ride with us!" —Jessica's Dad

The buggy rides depart from the covered bridge of Plain & Fancy Farm. You'll see a little red covered bridge along the side of Route 340, exactly a mile and a half from either Bird-in-Hand or Intercourse. Completely surrounded by Amish farmland, there are at least several different routes offered with different sights, stops, lengths, and prices. No reservations are needed. Just pick your ride when you arrive.



Family Tradition That Never Disappoints

Jessica likes to stress the non-commercial nature of the rides. "We can take you between the house and the barn on a real Amish farm, on private roads, with no cars. You see real Amish life. We absolutely offer you more!"

Recently there have been other carriage rides opened by folks seeking to take advantage of the tourist trade in Amish country. We offer a high quality tour with local guides. We realize you have a choice of rides and we appreciate your business!

Most of the drivers are our neighbors and are all Amish. Jessica's dad, who has driven thousands of visitors down Amish farm lanes over

the last 30 years, was three years old when he had his first recollection of a horse. He guesses he has driven a carriage more than anyone else in Lancaster County, about 10,000 miles a year!

Enjoy the beautiful countryside of Lancaster County with its immaculately kept Amish farms and gardens. Experience for yourself a taste of Amish Country life here.

All the rides are reasonably priced, starting at just \$10.00 for adults and \$6.00 for kids.

Many visitors love our special PRIVATE RIDES! It is the ultimate thing to do in Amish Country and will be the highlight of your visit! You can reserve a real Amish buggy and take a personal tour through the countryside getting all your questions personally answered by your Amish driver. You can visit an Amish farm, pass a waterpowered historic mill and stop at an Amish roadside stand for snacks. We customize it for you. We have had surprise engagements on our buggies, and small family reunions. Prices vary by length of ride. You are welcome to call 717.723.0478 or email us for more info. Private rides are available Monday through Friday, and Saturday mornings.

Kids love buggy rides, especially getting to sit up front next to the drivers! As one visitor from Long Island said, "This is our fifth time here this year. We love it here. Since my son woke up this morning Aaron & Jessica's is all I've heard" So, if your kids are driving you buggy, let Aaron & Jessica take over the reins for a while! Look for the little covered bridge along Route 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm, midway between Intercourse and Bird-in-Hand. 

Aaron and Jessica's welcomes you,
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JUNE 15 THROUGH AUGUST:

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Smokehouse BBQ & Brews is New! Here's the Review.

By Clinton Martin

The way to a man's heart is through his stomach. I've been smitten for years, and never been hungry! Anyone who knows me, knows I love to dine out at restaurants. When I heard that Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant was changing to a brand new concept, I decided I'd be there on opening day.

And so it was, that on the very first day the new Smokehouse BBQ & Brews was open, I had one of the first tables in the establishment. While the restaurant is in the same building that housed Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant for over 50 years, the inside space has been totally renovated, updated, and given a new atmosphere. And as for food, think American, Barbecue, Wood, Smoke, Meat. The menu offers the "big four" in smoked meats... Pork, Brisket, Chicken, and Turkey. The meats are featured in various ways, in sandwiches, as platters, and baby back ribs.

But the new restaurant also held onto the legendary menu items it's always been famous for – fried chicken, mashed potatoes, chicken pot pie, chow chow, shoofly pie, etc. So the Lancaster County Favorites are still there. In other words, your dining options have greatly expanded. But, having eaten those local favorites on literally hundreds of occasions, I went straight for the new menu choices.

Smokehouse BBQ & Brews prepares the meats the authentic way, low and slow in a real pit-master approved smoker (named "Lucille"). I chose a full rack of baby back ribs, which came with two sides. I went with Mac-n-Cheese and Baked Beans. They were so delicious, amazingly unique and tasty, that I'd go back again just for the sides.

The Mac-n-Cheese had obviously been made with a touch of smoked cheddar, because



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the smoky flavor really came through, and made for a special taste. The baked beans were slightly spicy, tangy in a molasses kind of way, and had pieces of the house-made brisket as a meaty bonus.

The baby back ribs were served purposefully “naked,” so I was able to decide how much, and which, of the six sauces with which to dress them. (A caddy is brought to your table so you can sauce your sandwich, platter, etc., trying them all if you’re so inclined.)

I paired my meal with a locally made craft brew, Mr. Dynamite Brown from Mad Chef Brewing Company. I love a good brown ale, and this was a great example of the style that went well with my meal.

Simply put, by the time you may start to feel hungry for supper, “Lucille” has already been

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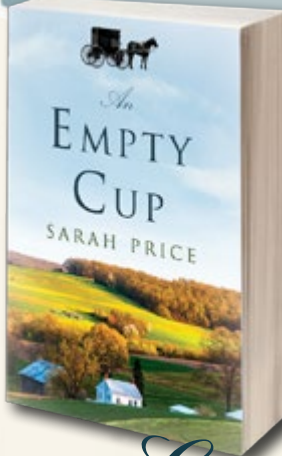
To make it happen, just visit Smokehouse BBQ & Brews, located along Route 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm, home of the Amish Experience, between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. GPS directions: 3121 Old Philadelphia Pike, Ronks PA. Call ahead seating is at 717.431.8400 or visit www.smokehousebbqandbrews.com.

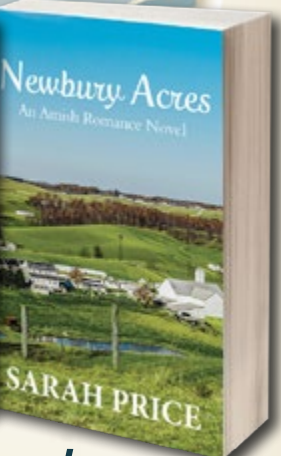


Mennonite Girls Can Cook is a new musical comedy, presented live on the Bird-in-Hand Stage through October 28.

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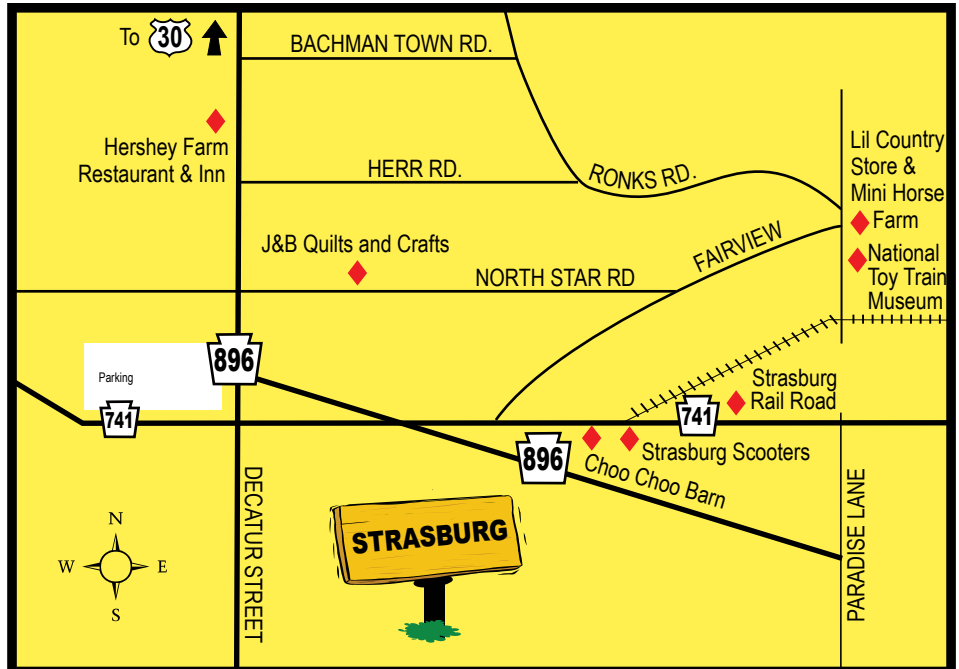
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All aboard! Strasburg is a destination all its own in Dutch Country, home to many well known attractions. To name just a few --- the Strasburg Rail Road, Ghost Tours of Lancaster, National Toy Train Museum, and the Choo Choo Barn. But you may not know much about the interesting history of "Train Town."

Strasburg, named for the city in France, was actually "founded" by a Frenchman, Pierre Bezaillon, who traded with the Delaware Indians. The story goes he came to the area in 1693, as French fur traders opened up the first path through this area from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River.

As early as 1716, when the first wagon was used for hauling goods, the path became known as the Conestoga Road, and the wagons that traveled them eventually became known as Conestoga Wagons. Main Street Strasburg was developed during the next half century as traffic on this road increased considerably and the first log houses appeared in the village about 1733.

Strasburg continued to flourish in the 18th century primarily because of its location along the major wagon routes between Philadelphia, Lancaster, and the Susquehanna River. As Strasburg flourished, so did its neighbor to the east, Philadelphia. The commercial interests of Philadelphia pressured the State Legislature to improve the transportation network into their city. As a result, a series of canals along with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Roads were constructed. Strasburg residents became alarmed at the possibility of losing their commercial position and there soon emerged a charter for the Strasburg Rail Road to construct a rail line connecting Strasburg with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road main line near Paradise. Finally in the 1850's, trains were hauling freight and passengers.

About 100 years later, business had dwindled, and a severe storm in 1957 destroyed much of the track. It seemed the srr had reached the end

of the line. To the rescue came a group of local train enthusiasts who began bringing the srr back to life in a totally new way. They added passenger cars and buildings, and today's Strasburg Rail Road was born, destined to become one of Dutch Country's top attractions.

Appropriately enough, the State decided to build an expanded Rail Road Museum of Pennsylvania across the street, the ideal place to preserve the history of railroading in Pennsylvania. With the other train attractions nearby, it's little wonder that Strasburg has earned the title of Train Town! 

Try a Taste of Amish Country at Hershey Farm

By Clinton Martin

What does Hershey Farm mean to you? Whoopie Pies? A lovely Inn? Shops? Home of the Lancaster County Comedy Show? Well, it is most certainly all of these, but the plentiful smorgasbord on site is simply world famous.

Hershey Farm is located along Route 896, south of Route 30 on the way to Strasburg (beside Sight & Sound). GPS directions: 240 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks. Call 800.827.8635 or for more information visit www.hersheyfarm.com. 

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Bird-in-Hand Stage Debuts *Mennonite Girls Can Cook!*

Special to AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

The Bird-in-Hand Stage has become one of Lancaster County's must-see stops for live performances offering musical theatre and magic shows. New this year is "Mennonite Girls Can Cook," inspired by the popular blog and subsequent cookbook by Lovella Schellenberg. When Lovella posted a family recipe card for Russian Mennonite Easter Bread on her blog in 2007, she didn't know it was the beginning of a cooking sensation. Today 10 women contribute to the widely successful "Mennonite Girls Can Cook" blog and series of books.

This new musical comedy is presented live on the Bird-in-Hand Stage through October 28. You'll watch the excitement, confusion and just plain frantic fun that erupts when a small town cable cooking show, hosted by two Mennonite women, attracts the attention of a big shot Hollywood producer. An ideal recipe for hilarity, this brand new musical mixes faith, food and friendship, and is served fresh and funny to you in 90 minutes.

The Stage is located on the lower level of the Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord at 2760 Old Philadelphia Pike in Bird-in-Hand. Meal packages are also available. To order tickets, call 800.790.4069 or visit online at www.Bird-in-Hand.com.

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The Amish in Their Own Words Vol. 2 - Part Two

by Brad Igou



Over the years, mental health issues have become more recognized in the Amish community, with some treatment centers and programs designed specifically for Plain people. Since May was Mental Health Month, it seems appropriate to share these writings, which were sent in as responses to an article in the magazine on depression...

I experienced depression as a young girl and a nervous breakdown in my upper teens. Then again, another nervous breakdown as a young mother. Now I would like to give a word of encouragement to those who are struggling.

In my family, mental illness was not well understood and even looked down upon as a result of spiritual problems, to some extent. I came through my nervous breakdown in my teens without any medical help, but it was very difficult. As I look back, I feel I would have gotten over it much more quickly with medication.

The Lord has blessed me with a husband and in-laws who understand mental and nervous illness. It helps so much to have understanding people to unburden myself to, and from whom to get encouragement again and again.

The magazine's editors asked others who had experience with mental illness to write. Over 40 responded, and here are two samples:

I grew up as an ordinary, healthy teenager, or so I thought. I had a job helping an elderly person when I was 15 and barely out of school. Several months after I started the job, I felt like a heavy weight was bearing down on me. I finally had to quit my job because I almost had a nervous breakdown.

I do admit, shamefully, that suicide was constantly on my mind, day after day. One day I found myself in the emergency room in the hospital because of an overdose of pills I had taken. The doctor said if I had drunk any alcohol along with the pills, I'd be gone.

"God, forgive me," I prayed silently. "I thought no one would miss me." Somehow God was there to pull me through. He didn't let me die.

I went for counseling and was amazed to find out how many other people were afflicted with mental illness. My counselor said it is the smart people who ask for help. I am now ready to be taken off medication. I'm glad, but I am also very scared. What does the future hold for me?

...and also this comment...

My mother struggled with mental illness off and on for many years. She raised a large family. I remember during my growing up years how my heart just ached for Mother when she was feeling blue, with no will to work or even to live. She was by nature a talkative person, but during these moods she became quiet, fearful of being left alone, and worrying unnecessarily over the smallest things.

You could feel her breakdowns coming beforehand --- sensing it, dreading it, yet feeling helpless. She was such a dear mother and her love for her family knew no bounds. Many were the times in my young life that the tears fell on her behalf, beseeching our dear God to grant her a better frame of mind.

For many years now she has been free of this illness. It brought us closer to God and helped us have understanding and compassion for others who are afflicted in similar ways.

Several years ago, I started working on a second volume of **THE AMISH IN THEIR OWN WORDS**, my book compiled from Amish writings in "Family Life" magazine. Since then, for many reasons, my project of producing "Volume 2" remains in limbo. Nevertheless, because I had begun to read and compile articles, I have decided to share some of them with you as my Amish Series for this year.

"A Little Parable"

Reading your series of articles on mental health makes me think of people who feel anyone with mental problems should just forget their senseless concerns and "Snap out of it!" So I have written a little parable:

If you have a field of hay to put away tomorrow, and you see dark clouds coming in the evening, do you tell yourself, "Forget about it" and go to sleep? If it keeps raining for a week or two, do you lock the hay out of your mind? Forget about it! Try harder!

The weather is getting colder. The garden has some things in it which must not freeze. The children need winter clothing. The baby is fussy and the older ones are quarreling. You can't get any work done while you are changing diapers or settling quarrels. Forget about the garden. Forget about the winter clothing. Lock them out of your mind. Go bake a cake and relax. Forget your problems. Try harder!

You haven't heard from your wayward son in years. Maybe he doesn't even live anymore. Forget him. Put him out of your mind. Try harder!

Whether our concerns and anxieties are realistic or unrealistic, all minds work the same. We cannot simply tell ourselves to "Forget it." We all need an understanding friend in whom to confide our burdens.

A broken bone, a deep cut, or a bad bruise takes much longer to heal than it did to injure it. Our minds are part of our body. They can be injured in various ways, including verbal abuse. Time, sincere sympathy, understanding, and encouraging words go a long way in healing troubled minds. 

Next Month: The Inspiring and Touching Story of "The Boy Who Wanted to Work."



New Surprises at Choo Choo Barn

By Clinton Martin

Randy's Garage, Strasburg Scooters, and a man in a bucket-truck fixing overhead wires – all are new scenes at the vast Choo Choo Barn display.

Also known as Train Town USA, the Choo Choo Barn is a hand-built, carefully orchestrated miniature train layout of immense detail and artistry.

Gazing at Lancaster County from a giant's perspective, winding trains traversing the whimsical landscape, with scenes at every turn, showing how Lancaster County lives and plays – all in miniature – is a rite of passage for visitors to Amish Country. You just have to do this!

The layout is 1,700 square feet and features over 150 hand-built animated figures and vehicles and 22 operating trains. It is genuinely fun, wholesome family entertainment, and who doesn't like pushing a button, and seeing a scene come to life? Choo Choo Barn is easy to find along Route 741 two blocks from the Strasburg Railroad. Call 717.687.7911 for hours, or visit www.choochoobarn.com. 



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Gettysburg – A Divided Country's Turning Point

by Brad Igou

We could probably make a strong argument that when people think of Pennsylvania, they primarily think of four destinations, all just a short drive from Amish Country. The other three are, of course, Philadelphia, Hershey, and Gettysburg.

Readers will immediately identify nearby Gettysburg with the Civil War. Here are a

few quick facts... Between July 1-3, 1863, Maj. Gen. George Meade's Union Army defeated attacks by Gen. Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army, ending Lee's attempt to invade the North. Often described as the turning point in the war, this was the bloodiest battle, with the largest number of casualties. Not long after the battle, President Lincoln came to the cemetery to give

what is arguably the most famous American speech, the Gettysburg Address.

Today, visitors are fortunate to have so many excellent resources available to really gain an in-depth understanding of those fateful days, and see where those events actually took place, as they walk this "Hallowed Ground."

The place to begin is the Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center. Gone are the days of the "Electric Map" and the somewhat musty displays. Now this spectacular center houses a state-of-the-art museum with fascinating artifacts, interactive displays, and information not only about the big events, but also the many individual stories of those involved in the struggle.

Then a film narrated by Morgan Freeman sets the stage for viewing the truly amazing Cyclorama, a 360-degree painting of Pickett's Charge that was completed a few years after the battle itself. Recently restored and preserved, this 4-story high, longer-than-a-football-field mural places you in the center of the battle.

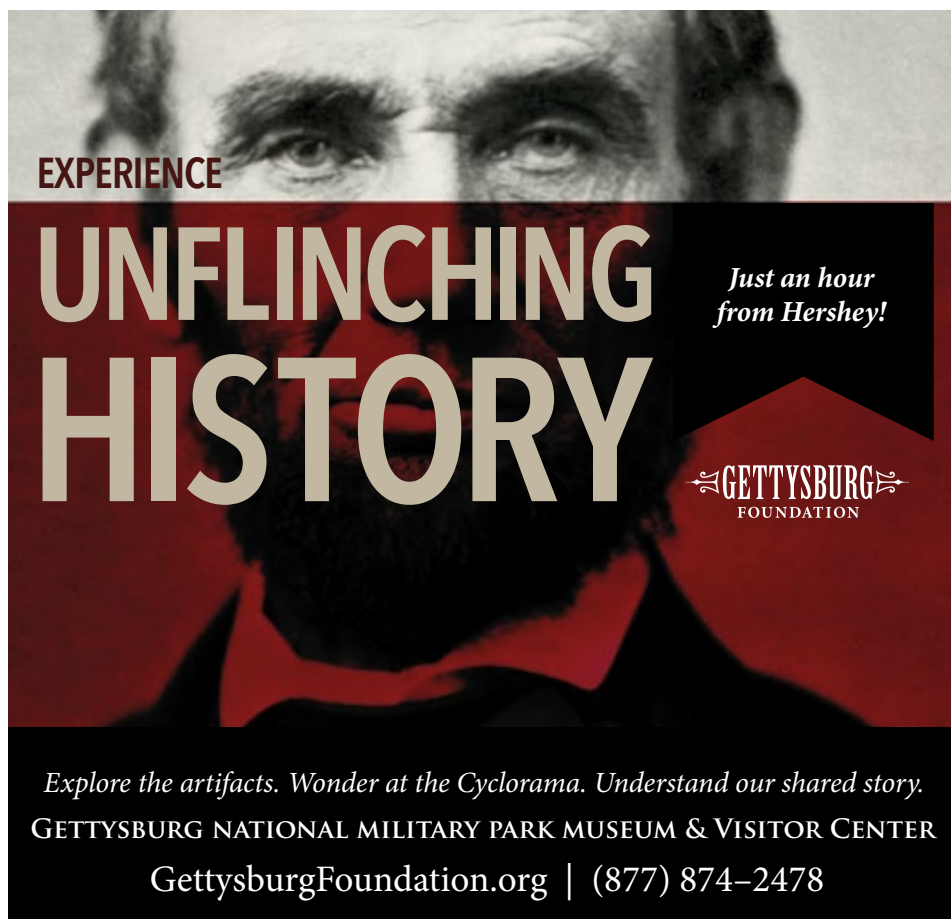
Armed with this historical background, you are now ready for a tour of the battlefield itself, and there are various options, from having a licensed guide, to driving around on your own, to taking a bus tour. There is a very reasonably priced option that includes the museum, cyclorama, and bus tour in a combination ticket.

But just as Lancaster is much more than just Amish Country, Gettysburg offers a variety of attractions beyond the battlefield. The town square is delightful, with many other historic buildings, lodging, shops, theater, and restaurants, all good spots to unwind after a day of sightseeing. You might even want to do a Ghost Tour in the evening.

Many visitors are not familiar with the nearby Eisenhower National Historic Site, the home and farm of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower. This was his weekend retreat and a meeting place for world leaders, a much needed respite from Washington, and a backdrop for efforts to reduce Cold War tensions.

You'll want to plan some time for other pursuits, whether that be outlet shopping, visiting wineries, or various outdoor activities. And you may want to check out some of the events you might not associate with Gettysburg; a beer festival, bike week, apple harvest festival, and even Gettysburg Rocks.

So be sure to plan a visit to Gettysburg and make this small Pennsylvania town that changed the course of history a part of your vacation battle plan. 



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– Jack Brubaker, *The Scribbler*, Lancaster New Era

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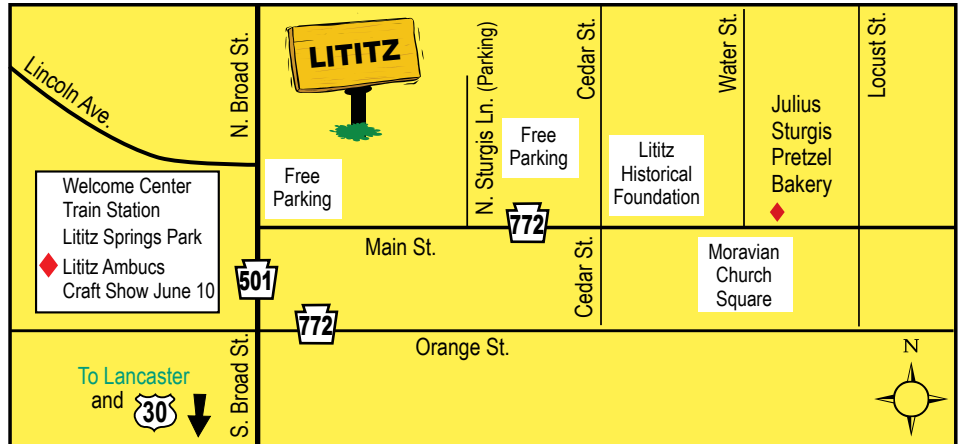
– John Dr. Ruth, Director, Mennonite Historical Library



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Historic Lititz...A Hometown Treasure



There's no place quite like Lititz, and visitors should plan time there while in Amish Country. The Lititz story is tied to that of the Moravian faith in Bohemia. As was the case with other persecuted religious groups in Europe, many Moravians sought freedom in the New World, arriving in the early 1700's, with settlements in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. In 1755 the town actually took the name Lititz, the German spelling for Lidice, where European reformers had taken refuge in the 15th century.

Music and education were important to the Moravians. In fact, the Lititz schoolhouse erected in 1746 marked the beginnings of what was to be Linden Hall, the oldest continuously operating residence school for girls in the United States.

For one hundred years, Moravian church members were the only people permitted to live in the town. It was not until 1855 that non-Moravians were allowed to own their own homes. The complex of buildings comprising

the Moravian congregation is well worth seeing, particularly the church built in 1787.

One name is linked forever with the history of Lititz—Julius Sturgis. He opened the first commercial pretzel bakery in the New World

in Lititz. The year was 1861, and the site at 219 East Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places. A tour of the bakery, still in operation, is unlike any other and well worth your time. 🐾



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"Bonnet Books" Galore at Gordonville Book Store

By Clinton Martin



Whether you call them bonnet books or prefer the term Amish fiction, Gordonville Book Store is a must-see treasure trove of this genre. The store has all the latest novels from the biggest names, including Beverly Lewis and Wanda Brunstetter, but also carries up and coming, lesser known (for now) authors. If you love

to dive into the world of the Amish in a good book, you need to visit Gordonville Book Store.

The store also carries many hard-to-find books, including titles of interest to the Anabaptist heritage. Gordonville Book Store is also one of the area's best scrapbooking sources.

For a fascinating experience in a real Amish bookstore, stop by at 275 Old Leacock Road, Gordonville (south of 340 near Intercourse), or call 717.768.3512 for directions. 

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Killer Hats is Amish Country Cool

By Clinton Martin

Killer Hats is not just a hat store. In addition to head wear, Killer Hats offers boots, belts, buckles, and brand-name apparel. But calling Killer Hats a clothing store doesn't quite cut it either.

This is "extreme fashion" for **Ladies, Gentleman, Cowboys, Bikers and Scoundrels**. Whether you want distinguished, rough, tough,

classy or classic, proprietors Steve & Linda Wilson have the look you want. They pride themselves in having an immense selection. The showroom is 35,000 square feet, so suffice it to say they have a few items in stock.

One characteristic Steve and Linda have always stressed about their family-owned business is that it is proudly based in the US. Their employees are skilled, hardworking Americans who are paid fair wages and receive benefits. They are definitely not just an online operation with an overseas call center and a US shipping address.

The staff at Killer Hats spends as much time with their customers as is needed, finding the right apparel and the right fit (including wide, high-arch, or other specialty fits), whether they purchase or not. It is a shopping experience, not just a store.

Killer Hats is located along Route 30 in Paradise, only four miles east of the outlets. For GPS driving directions, use 3000 Lincoln Highway East, Gordonville. Call 717.687.7666 or visit their website at www.killerhats.com for more information. 

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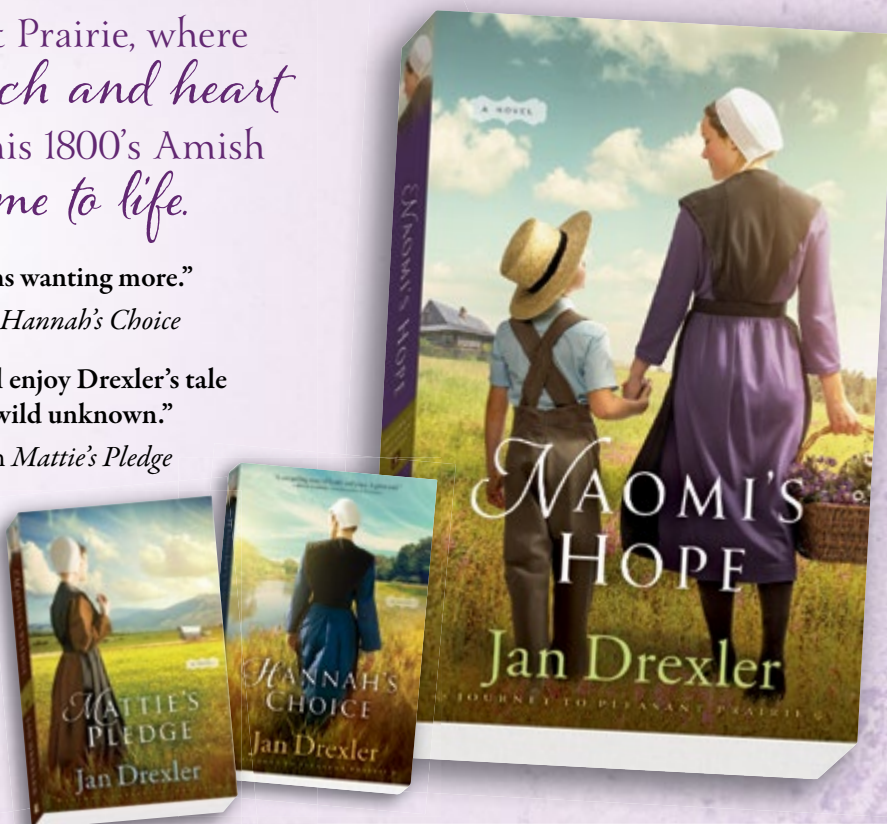
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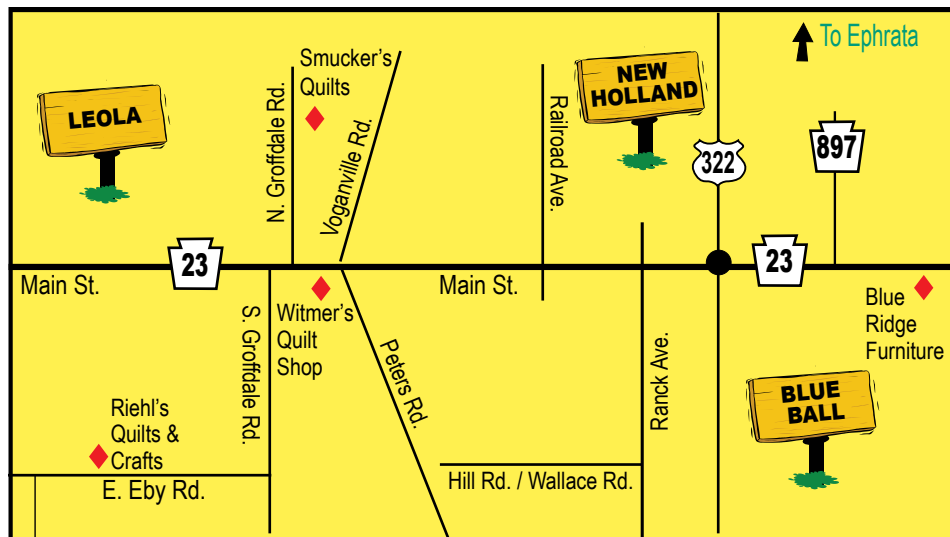

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Welcome to New Holland • Blue Ball



The instability in Europe in the late 1600's spawned and nurtured the pioneer interest in the deep forest lands of Pennsylvania. In 1681 William Penn received his 40,000 square-mile land grant to settle King Charles' debt to his father. Himself a Quaker, Penn had experienced religious persecution firsthand, and decided to establish his American colony based on complete religious freedom.

This entire century had been one of continued misery for the peasants of the Palatinate (western Germany). The Thirty Years War had raged across the area with barbaric ruthlessness. The peasant inhabitants fled to nearby Holland for refuge. And within a decade of the end of that conflict, King Louis XIV of France started a new religious war in the same general area. These Palatinate peasants were exhausted by

war's desolation, and were ripe for a new start. Traveling land agents for William Penn's new colony found listening ears. In addition to religious freedom and a peaceful existence, Penn offered cheap land. The stated price was 100 English pounds for 5,000 acres.

By 1728, William Penn had been dead for 10 years and his American colony, called Pennsylvania, was being administered by a proprietary governor while the sale of land was formalized by patent deeds.

In 1802, when a post office was established and an official name was necessary, there was no objection to naming the town New Holland. These grateful people remembered how extremely kind the inhabitants of Holland were to them, and the assistance that included funds to cover the cost of the refugee German immigrants' ocean voyage.

This was no small matter when the alternative was indentured service for a period of years. For adults, indenture frequently meant four to seven years of labor without pay. Minors served until their 21st birthday. But still, William Penn's Quaker Pennsylvania was liberation compared to the Europe they fled seeking freedom of religion, assembly and speech for all, hopefully, none of which we take for granted today.

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Mission Accepted: Amish Furniture at Blue Ridge Heirlooms

By Clinton Martin

The craftsmen at Blue Ridge Furniture promise "Everything Beautiful" in their furniture, and are proud to offer many different styles. Sometimes Amish furniture is pegged as being monolithic, but at Blue Ridge, they offer not only rustic country styles but also contemporary designs. One of the more popular lines is Mission-style furniture.

Mission furniture has actually been a style popular in America for over 100 years, coming

as a counterpoint to the excesses of Victorian furniture design. While the name does relate to Spanish Missions in California, the style doesn't necessarily mimic the furniture of those buildings, but instead features simple horizontal and vertical lines and flat panels that accentuate the grain of the wood.

Blue Ridge Furniture offers a wide range of Mission styles, including custom pieces that

allow the customer to choose every facet of their furniture piece, down to the hardware and finish.

Browse their show room on Route 23 in the village of Churchtown. GPS directions: 2014 Main Street, Narvon. For more information about the business and its products, call 717.445.6595, or visit their NEW website at www.blueridgeheirlooms.com.

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24th Annual Crafts-in-the-Park Benefits Lititz Ambucs

By Clinton Martin

Where were you the second Saturday of June, 24 years ago? If you are like many of the volunteers at Lititz Ambucs, you'd have been setting up for a brand new craft show in Lititz Springs Park.

Nearly a quarter century later, the craft show has grown and become a fixture in the community. The event raises funds for Lititz Ambucs,

an organization providing services to people with mobility challenges.

For visitors, the Crafts-in-the-Park event is a wonderful opportunity to browse and shop at a well-established juried show, which means the merchandise at the show is not repackaged, commercial products, but truly artisan crafted. The range of products is broad, and the jurying

committee purposefully curates for a show focused on creativity, originality, and quality.

Admission is free, as is parking. The show is rain or shine, June 10, 2017 from 9:00am to 4:00pm. The Lititz Springs Park is located along Route 501 (Broad Street) in Lititz. It's a really fine arts and crafts experience for a good cause! Learn more at www.lititzambucs.com. 

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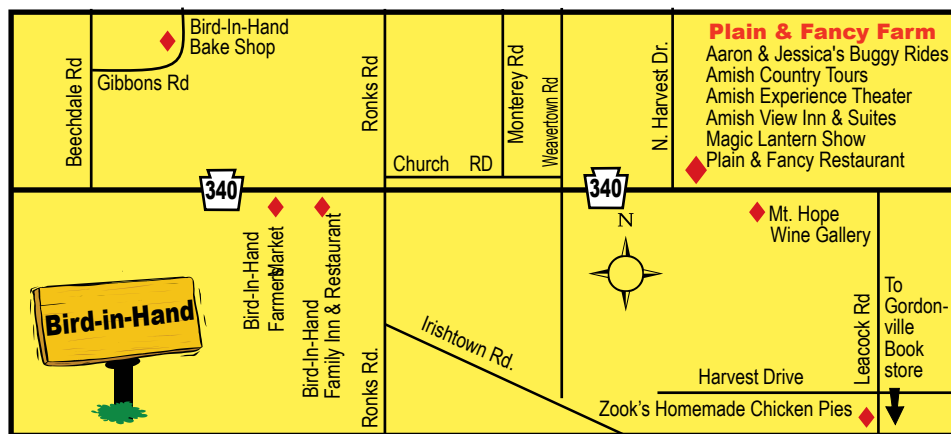
In addition to the 100 resident Renaissance Faire shops, an array of guest artisans and

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Continued on Page 25

Welcome to the Village of Bird-in-Hand



sign in front of the inn, which became known as the Bird-in-Hand Inn, is known to have once "portrayed a man with a bird in his hand and a bush nearby, in which two birds were perched."

Variations of this sign appear throughout the town today. McNabb's Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1851. By the following year, a three-story hotel was built to replace it. More recently, it was Bitzer's Hotel before becoming the present Village Inn of Bird-in-Hand, a beautiful bed and breakfast property. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County states that the existing brick building "may be one of the few 19th century inns in the context of a small town in Lancaster County, which survives with a high degree of architectural integrity." It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. When referring to their bird in hand symbol, some residents say that the bird nestled in the human hand indicates friendship, comfort, and hospitality, all of which you'll discover in this perfectly delightful little village of shops, farmers markets and eateries. 

Of the many unique village names that dot the Amish Country map, one of the more interesting is Bird-in-Hand. William Penn, an English Quaker, had founded the colony of Penn's Woods, and settlers began arriving from Europe in the early 1700's, moving westward from Philadelphia. The trip by stagecoach, or Conestoga wagon with freight and merchandise, lasted several days. Inns were built every few miles, identified with signs held by an iron pole or attached to the side of the building. The reason for the signs was so that they could be

understood by all nationalities. Further, since many teamsters or wagoners were poorly educated they could not read. Given orders to stop at a certain inn, they were able to do so by recognizing the artwork on the signboard.

The legend of the naming of Bird-in-Hand dates to the time when the Old Philadelphia Pike was being laid out. By 1734, surveyors at McNabb's Hotel were discussing whether they should stay at their present location or return to Lancaster to spend the night. One of them said, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The

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Summer Tastes Better at Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop

By Clinton Martin

Throw a whoopie pie in any direction in Amish Country and you're bound to hit a bakery. But, where do you go when you want a real, true, best of the rest taste? Many locals would say the Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop on



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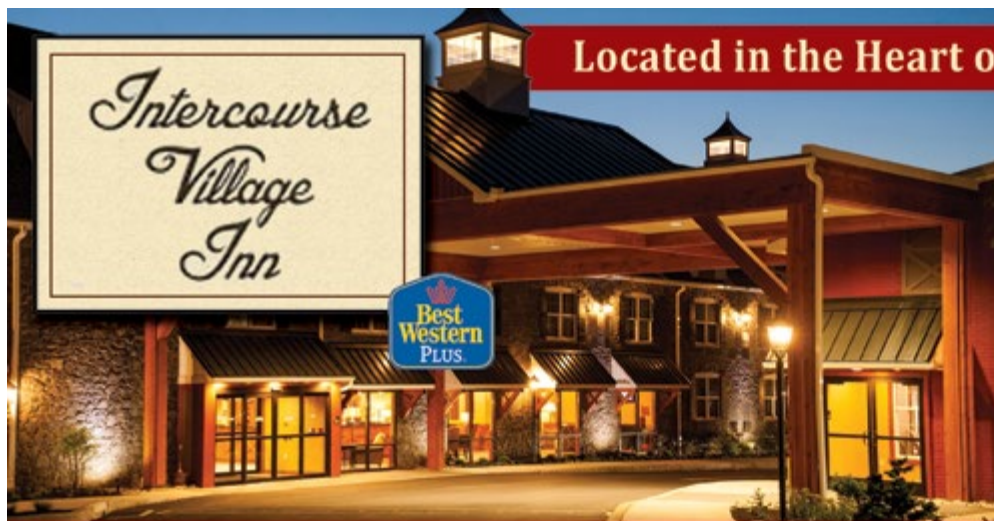


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Gibbons Road. This shop is out in the country, surrounded by Amish farms, and offers visitors a delicious array of scratch-made baked goods. Hardworking Amish and Mennonite ladies bake each item on site, made fresh daily.

There's also a little meadow with farm animals, a playground for the kids, and a picnic area. The Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop is located at 542 Gibbons Road, Bird-in-Hand. Call 717.656.7947 or visit www.bihbakeshop.com.



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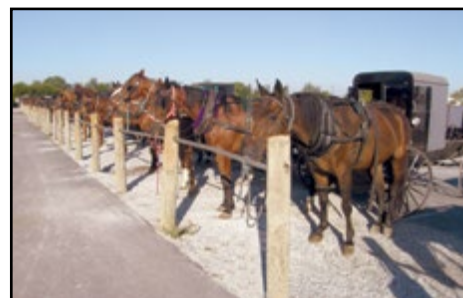
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An Amish Auction You'll Never Forget

By Brad Igou

Beginning last year, the month for one of my favorite events, The Clinic for Special Children Auction, changed from September to June. Many visitors have heard of fire company "mud sales" by now. But this is a very special auction for a great cause and, since the place where this auction is held is paved and largely inside, you don't have to worry about the weather...or mud!

So what is the Clinic for Special Children? According to the Clinic newsletter, it is "a non-profit diagnostic and primary pediatric medical service for... Old Order Amish, Mennonite and other families with children who suffer from a high incidence of genetic diseases."

You will find virtually anything and everything on multiple auction blocks, with bidding going on simultaneously in different areas... garden plants and household items here, farm equipment there, with the auction highlight focused on dozens of beautiful handmade quilts.

Whether you bid or not, the food alone is reason enough to visit. Here are a few food statistics from prior years... 30,000 donuts, 7,300 sandwiches, 520 pizzas, 2,800 pieces of chicken, 6,600 ice cream cones, 3,500 soft pretzels, 4,000 cups of lemonade, 168 strawberry pies, and 900 pounds of whoopie pie filling! Many of the culinary delights, including the donuts, are made by Amish right at the auction.

The event is fun, inspiring, and endlessly fascinating. You may want to just sit and observe the organization and the parade of people for a while. But do try and attend, even if only for an hour.

The Clinic for Special Children Auction is held on June 17, 2017 at the Leola Produce Auction, 135 Brethren Church Road, one mile north of Route 23 in Leola. There are also three other Clinic auctions in Pennsylvania, and one in Ohio. For more information on the Clinic and its other auctions, contact The Clinic at P.O. Box 128, Strasburg, PA 17579. Tel. 717.687.9407. www.ClinicForSpecialChildren.org

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To enter, send 8x10 photos at high resolution (300 dpi) and in .jpg format to: editor@amishnews.com
Put "2017 photo contest" in subject line. Deadline 12/31/17.

Amish Country is one of the most photographed areas in the world. Think you've got a great photo? Send it to us! See your photo in the pages of *Amish Country News*. Winners receive free tour and attraction tickets. Other prizes go to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd runners-up, judged on quality, color, subject matter, etc.

Photos become property of Amish Country News/Amish Experience and may be used in upcoming issues, publications, and/or other promotions. Photos should depict scenes, aspects, events, or activities typical to Lancaster or the Pennsylvania Dutch Country region. We accept photos via email, and request no more than 10 photos by the same person be submitted. File names should contain your name. In the email include your name, address, and phone number. Details on location, date, or subject matter of the photograph should also be included.

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Celtic Fling (Continued from Page 21)

merchants will be offering unique items throughout the 35-acre Celtic Fling site. Kitchens throughout the site will serve a tasting tour of the Celtic nations with items such as corned beef and cabbage, bangers and mash and the ever-popular Scotch Eggs. Swashbuckler Beers, Lancaster County Ciders and Mount Hope Wines will be available to accompany these tasty treats.

This party like no other takes place June 23, 24 and 25. The Fling is a music festival, dance competition, sporting event, cultural experience, arts and crafts fair and food fest in one festival. Advance tickets are on sale at www.PaRenFaire.com. 



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Stop in at Good 'n Plenty today to enjoy our traditional Lancaster County home cooking and you'll see why we've been chosen as one of AAA's Top 10 BEST "down-home dining" restaurants in North America. Staffed with local cooks who have devoted years to preparing outstanding food, Good 'n Plenty is like no other restaurant in the heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch area.

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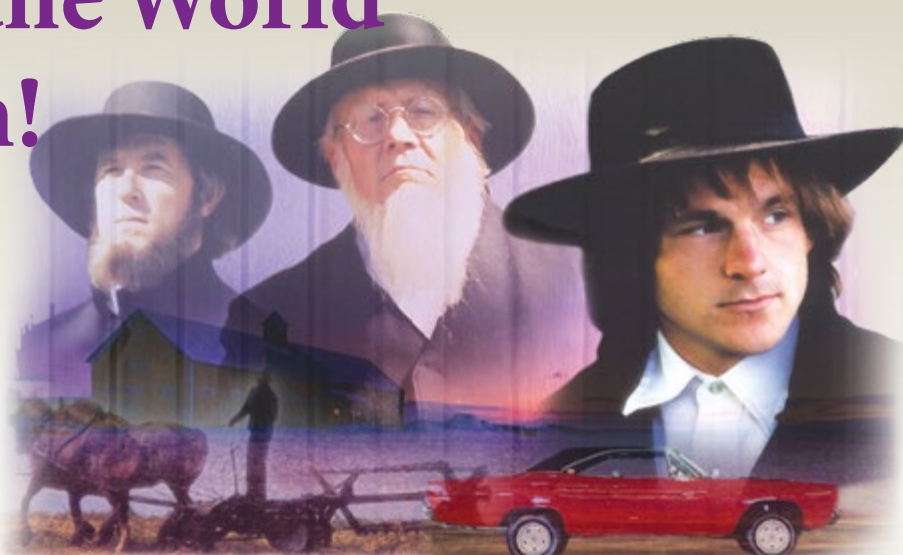
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Receive a voucher for a FREE "Cookie Run Buggy Ride" just a few steps away at Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides with a purchase, at the Amish Experience Theater Box Office or online, of a regularly priced SuperSaver Package. *One voucher for each adult or child ticket purchased with this coupon. Voucher not valid Saturdays July 1-Sept. 2 or with any other offer or with group tours. Offer expires 11/30/17. Valid up to six people. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. BUGAN*

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Amish Farmlands Tour



Journey along back country roads, deep into the Amish Farmlands to discover sights rarely seen. Under the watchful eye of your certified guide, you'll gain insights into the "how" and "why" of an ever-changing culture, and see at-the-moment activities of the Amish. If you've seen the Amish portrayed on the various "Reality" TV shows, and you wonder what really is true and not true about the Amish, this is the tour you won't want to miss! We'll debunk myths about the Amish and provide accurate, respectful, and authentic information, just like we have done for over 50 years.

Duration: 1 ½ hours

Mon.-Sat., 10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM & 4 PM

Sun. 10 AM, 12 PM & 2 PM

Visit-in-Person Tour



Rare is the opportunity to meet with Amish families willing to share their traditions and beliefs with you. In a group whose size is never more than 14, this is the only Amish Tour to be designated an official "Heritage Tour" by the County of Lancaster. Visit an Amish farm at milking time, stop at a Cottage Industry, and finally enjoy a visit and chat with one of our Amish friends in their home.



Duration:

3 hours

Mon.-Sat.

Departs 5 PM

SuperSaver Package



THIS IS YOUR TOTAL AMISH EXPERIENCE!

The SuperSaver Package includes the Amish Farmlands Tour, the acclaimed "Jacob's Choice" at the Amish Experience F/x Theater, and a tour of the Amish House & One-Room School. As a bonus, receive an Amish cookbook and a voucher for a FREE BUGGY RIDE from Aaron & Jessica's on property. Buggy ride offer valid through November only. Voucher not valid Saturdays July 1-September 2.

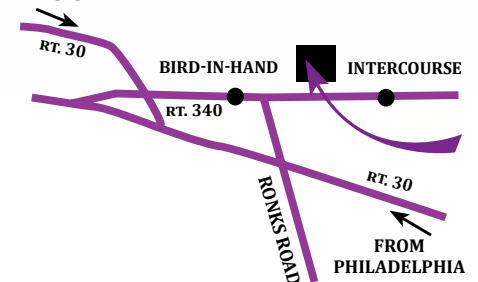
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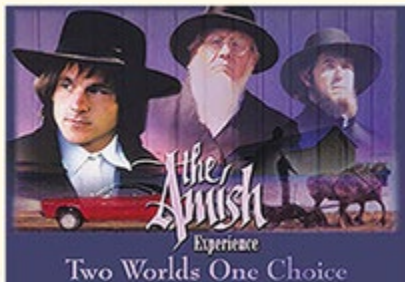
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Jacob's Choice at the Amish Experience Theater

Discover what it means to be Amish through magical story-telling as you become part of the emotional struggle of the Fisher family to preserve more than 400 years of Amish traditions. Five viewing screens, a unique barnyard setting, and special effects create a one-of-a-kind experience.

Amish Farmlands Tour

Journey down rarely traveled back country roads, deep into the farmlands, to discover the sights sought after by visitors. Gain insights into the hows and whys of an ever-changing culture from certified guides in 14-passenger mini-shuttles. Stops may include a roadside stand, quilt shop, country store or craft shop on an Amish farm.



Amish Country Homestead & Schoolroom

Visit the only officially designated "Heritage Site" Amish house. As you walk through the nine rooms with your guide, unravel the riddle of Amish clothing, life without electricity, and eight-grades-in-a-room education as you sit at authentic Amish school desks.

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Go back in time! Not a magic show, but a magical entertainment experience before there were movies. An authentic 1890's lantern projects stunning images, accompanied by a live performer, music and Victorian "special effects." It's the only permanent magic lantern theater in the world.



Visit-in-Person Tour

This officially designated "Heritage Tour" is a rare opportunity to meet and talk to the Amish personally. On this exclusive tour you will go right into the barn on an Amish farm at milking time, visit with an Amish artisan at his workplace, and then enjoy a personal visit and conversation right in an Amish home. Limited to 14 guests.

Smokehouse BBQ and Brews

Please see right hand page.



Buggy Rides

Aaron & Jessica's drivers are happy to share life stories and answer questions.

The Country Store

Find books, videotapes, candles, toys and dolls, kitchen and home items, souvenirs, local handcrafts, Amish clothing, straw hats, bonnets, and last but not least...tasty treats.

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www.PlainAndFancyFarm.com

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Smokehouse BBQ and Brews

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The menu also includes an array of Lancaster County Favorites, including Amish Country's Original Build Your Own Feast!

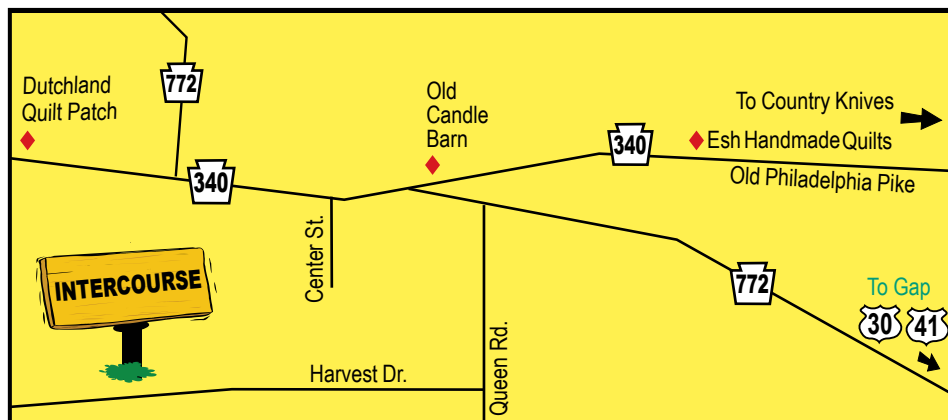
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Welcome to Intercourse, PA



Perhaps no other town in the entire country can claim its fame on just one simple thing... its name. Harrison Ford drove a buggy past the road sign on a memorable visit in the Hollywood blockbuster hit "Witness." For years people have postmarked "Intercourse" on envelopes, and

the jokes from visitors who travel through Bird-in-Hand to Intercourse are endless. There are several theories for the name.

Around 1730, the Old Provincial Highway (now RT. 340) was laid out to connect Philadelphia with Lancaster. Conestoga wagons

hauled freight back and forth between the two cities. Providing rest for travelers and horses, taverns sprouted along the way, becoming centers for news, gossip, and commerce. The construction of a log tavern in 1754 at the intersection of Newport Road and the Highway took "Cross Keys" as its name.

The Old Candle Barn

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Country Knives Makes Life Possible

By Clinton Martin

If you ever find yourself abandoned on a desert island, you'll only need one item from one place to survive...Country Knives. This store, which carries over 8,000 cutlery items, sports an exhaustive variety of knives and other edged tools. Stop and think about how many times in daily life you use a piece of cutlery. Personal grooming, cooking, yard work, caring for your pets – life requires edged tools. Country Knives supplies what you need, or just want really bad! Country Knives also carries a full line of "fantasy blades." Don't know what that means? Stop in and find out! The store is just east of Intercourse on Route 340 at 4134 Old Philadelphia Pike. Call 717.768.3818 or visit www.countryknives.com for more information.

It remained such until 1814, when the name was changed to Intercourse as part of a failed real estate scheme of a Mr. George Brungard, who had acquired 48 acres of nearby land and attempted to lay out a town site and divide it into sections for sale by a lottery, advertising "151 handsome building lots of \$250 each to be drawn for by number." Renaming the town made sense, as intercourse had a common usage referring to the pleasant mutual fellowship and frequent intermingling which were so common in the informal atmosphere of the quiet country village. Over time, Brungard's scheme begat others. As recently as 1971, an enterprising soul tried to take advantage of the town's name by selling deeds for one-inch square plots of Intercourse to visitors. Creative, but nonetheless a failure. By 1880, Intercourse had a population

of 280 with a post office that actually moved among stores or restaurants as owners hoped visits by residents would increase their business.

The local stagecoach service started around 1898 as "a single horse conveyance similar to a market wagon, with a roll-up curtain and double set of seats." When the stagecoach driver knew of passengers beforehand, their comfort on cold days was added to with the placement of hot bricks heated in the oven, and wrapped in newspaper to preserve their warmth.

As the days of the dirt road drew to a close, so too did the stagecoach era. In 1923 a transit company was organized and bus service initiated to and from Lancaster. While "many of the Amish residents of the area were eager to see the line started, they did not want to invest in stock of the Company. Instead they bought

books of tickets which were really prepaid bus fares." Walking the streets of this tiny hamlet is an absolute must-visit for everyone. 

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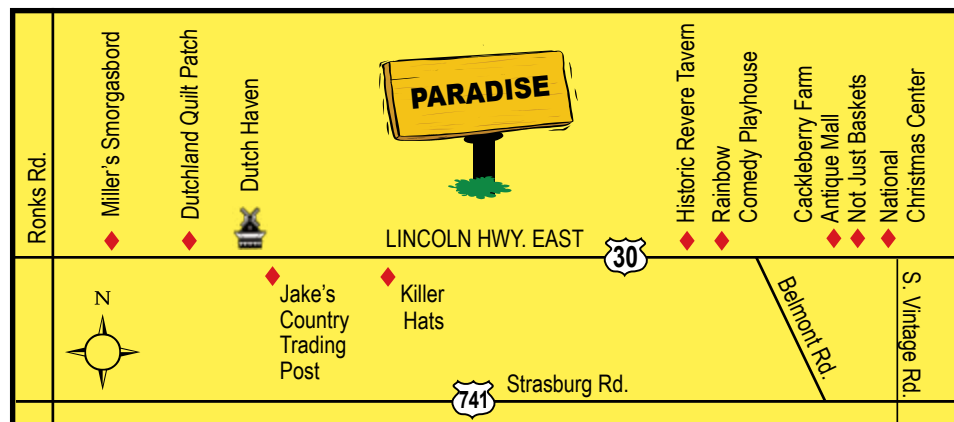
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Expires October 16, 2017

Welcome to Our Paradise



Visitors to Lancaster from the east on Route 30 travel through Paradise. The town's story traces back to Europe over 300 years ago, to the area of the Palatinate in Germany where Protestants had settled following the declaration of King Louis XIV that all Protestants in France would be persecuted. Fearing a French invasion, many accepted the invitation to settle in the New World in William Penn's colony of Penn's Woods. By 1712, they had secured land in Lancaster's Pequea Valley as the area's first white people, living peaceably with local Indians.

The origins of Route 30, also known as "Lincoln Highway," date back to Lancaster's Colonial days when the frontier county needed a highway to connect it with the provincial capital of Philadelphia. The first road that was constructed is now Route 340, still referred to as the "Old Philadelphia Pike." Soon, it was apparent that this road was insufficient to handle the increasing traffic, and in 1790, a commission to survey a new route was created. Since the cost was too much for the state to undertake, the company charged with building

it was given the power to demand "reasonable" tolls from users. Investors received dividends earned from tolls collected along the gates of the turnpike. (As the toll was paid, the gate or "pike" was turned, hence the term "turnpike"). The "Lincoln Highway" (Route 30) opened in 1795 as the first long-distance, hard surfaced road in the country. Taverns and stagecoach stops grew up along the turnpike for weary travelers.

Of these, the Revere Tavern, dating back to 1740 and originally called the "Sign of the Spread Eagle," still proudly stands today. In 1841, the tavern became the residence of Reverend Edward V. Buchanan and his wife Eliza Foster Buchanan. Eliza was the sister of Stephen Foster, whose immortal songs will always be a part of Americana. Foster not only penned music at the tavern, but sent many of his manuscripts to Eliza, also a talented musician, for her approval. On the banks of the Pequea Creek, Eliza and Stephen played many of Stephen's 200 songs, including "Way Down Upon the Swanee River" and "Oh! Susanna."

Wherever you happen to call "paradise," we hope that a little bit of our own Paradise won't do you any harm! 

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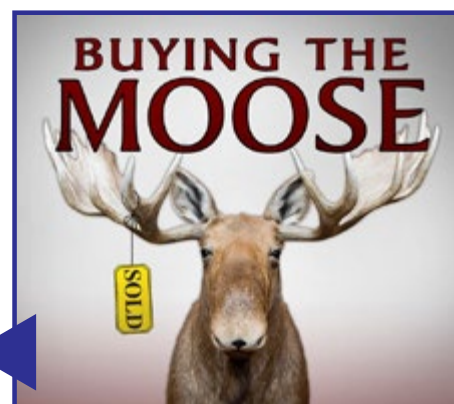


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Cackleberry Farms Antique Mall Celebrates 20 Years

By Clinton Martin

The Cackleberry Farms Antique Mall of today is a 26,000 square foot antique, vintage, and collectible paradise, but it all began from very humble beginnings.

Twenty years ago, in what was once a chicken house with 40,000 egg-laying hens, Cackleberry Farms Antique Mall opened its doors. Twelve years ago, the former hen house simply wasn't big enough for the growing store, so the business moved to its current location, 3371 Lincoln Highway (Route 30) East, Paradise.

Cackleberry Farms showcases the eclectic tastes of hundreds of antique dealers, each with their own unique theme. The merchandise is displayed in a climate-controlled building with friendly and helpful staff. There is plenty of free parking, including for buses and RVs, major credit cards are accepted, and the building (all under one roof, all on one floor) is handicapped accessible.

"In the Heart of Pennsylvania Dutch Country"
 Lean back in a rocking chair, take a deep breath, and feel the stresses of everyday life disappear. Close your eyes as your troubles drift away on a fresh country breeze.




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COUNTRY INN of LANCASTER



In 2017, Cackleberry Farms is celebrating the milestone 20th year anniversary with great sales throughout the store. To welcome everyone, visitors can enter a free sweepstakes for local attraction tickets, restaurant gift certificates, and other prizes. Stop in the store to visit the contest kiosk for more information, or call the store at 717.442.8805. For more information on the types of antiques, see their website at www.cackleberryfarmantiquemall.com.



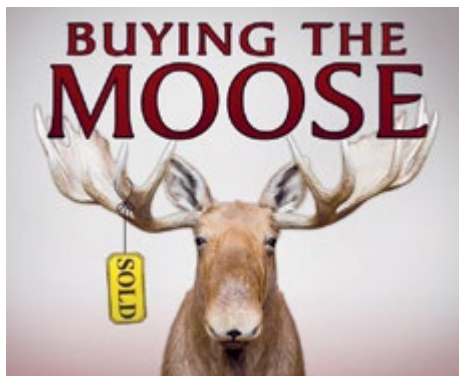

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Rainbow Comedy Playhouse is Buying a Moose?

By Clinton Martin

While you are bound to see a stuffed mounted Moose on the wall in Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse this June, it isn't a sign of America's favorite all-comedy playhouse turning into a hunting and fishing store. Instead, the Moose's mop is a limited engagement only – standing head and shoulders above the audience for the hilarious play written by very funny Canadian playwright Michael G. Wilmot. Among other things, Wilmot is famous for writing monologues for Jay Leno's "Tonight Show."

The premise of the show? Men and women have completely different ways of dealing with a problem. Sometimes giving each other advice is the worst thing that could happen. And sometimes the worst thing that can happen is the best thing that can happen. One thing for sure: when men and women give each other advice, it makes for a great comedy!

Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse is not just a laugh-inducing theater where you catch a great play. It is also a delicious dining experience, offering various ways to dine, including a traditional dinner theater buffet on certain days, an ala carte pub-style evening at other times, and full service menu dining still other nights. What appeals to your appetite?

Go for the theater, but do enjoy the tasty dining. You won't be disappointed. Call to ask what options are available, 800.292.4301, or learn more about the season on the web at www.rainbowcomedy.com. Follow the laughter to 3065 Lincoln Highway East (Route 30) in Paradise. 

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Adamstown

To Reading

To Philadelphia

New Holland & Blue Ball
(Map Pg. 18)

Morgantown

Goodville

Blue Ball

New Holland

Ephrata

Akron

To Lititz

Brownstown

Leola

Bird-in-Hand
(Map Pg. 22)

Intercourse
(Map Pg. 30)

White Horse

Ronks

To Philadelphia

Gap

Paradise
(Map Pg. 32)

Strasburg
(Map Pg. 10)

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Publisher's Message

Got screen time??

by Brad Igou

To me, an endlessly fascinating topic is the Amish use of modern technology. You may already know that some Amish teenagers have Facebook pages.

In a recent presentation by the Young Center for Anabaptist Studies at Elizabethtown College we learned "that about half of the Lancaster Rumpshinga-age youth [not yet church members] have cellphones and that three-quarters of those phones are smartphones." These are sometimes referred to as "the world in your pocket."

"In late 2014, the Lancaster bishops ruled that church members should not have smartphones, *but* the decision was not uniformly reported to churches, suggesting some lack of consensus."

Next, I looked at a report from Common Sense Media in 2015, as reported on CNN. On any given day, teens in the United States spend about nine hours using media for their enjoyment with some 13-year-olds checking social media 100 times a day.

That's more time than teens typically spend sleeping, and more time than they spend with their parents and teachers. And the nine hours does not include time spent using media at school or for their homework.

I found some interesting comments from those who read the report. A parent wrote that her...

...9 year old is playing Grand Theft Auto, Call of Duty, Left for Dead, etc. (all of which I will point out are rated M for mature), so nothing in those games is teaching him anything good.

A 10-year-old noted...

I play video games. I get 8 hours a day. I get 2 hours on TV, 4 hours on video games, 2 hours on my phone. I get A's and B's. On my free time I sometimes play Pokémon and go outside to ride my bike.

A 16-year-old commented...

My parents let me play only 2 hours which sucks because most of my friends live too far away to just drive over to hangout, so that's the only time I get to spend with them during the day and plus, they play longer and as a result I always have to hear about all the cool stuff they do while my parents are too strict.

A visitor once expressed to me the concern that Amish children are deprived of many things, particularly a high school or college education. Schooling formally stops after the eighth grade. Amish education focuses on the basics, just as one-room schools did in rural America years ago. For those going into farming, carpentry, construction, housekeeping, etc., the learning does not take place sitting behind a desk, but by "doing."

If they wanted to, the Amish could certainly make a list of some of the things their children generally do not experience. Just to name a few...

- Going to school on a bus every day or getting dropped off at day-care
- Having to pass through a metal detector when they arrive in the morning
- Being trained to beware of strangers
- Getting to wear the latest trendy fashions and sports shoes
- Watching TV, going to movies, and surfing the Internet

An Amishman wrote several years ago that Amish children, in addition to being "deprived," are actually "forced" to do many things. Those on the farm...

...are expected to feed the chickens, sweep the floor, and fill the wood box after walking home from school. On Saturdays and holidays, they have to help with planting the garden, and later with picking berries and cherries, peas and beans, corn and potatoes. They drive a team of horses for loading hay and grain. Truly, they have little leisure time.

He felt that "being deprived of many of the pleasures of this world is a spiritual blessing. Our children seem to be just as happy as those who are deprived of nothing."

There are no simple answers to dealing with the rapid changes in our modern world, and our ability to hold onto the faith and family values each of us hold dear. The eventual impact of this evolving technology on children and how they are raised remains to be seen. In that regard, I have always liked the perspective given by an Amish minister...

"Children are the only treasures on earth we can take with us to heaven." 



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